Cortland Oct. 6 '58

Dear Br. Garrison:-

136

We have been very much elated by the prospect of your being with us either on your way to or from Ohio, & yet I am now *fearful* that we *may* be disappointed. The Spiritualists ~~here~~ have long been trying to get S. B. Brittan to visit them of a Sunday, & as he is now on the way west & South, he has sent word that he will come about the time you have fixed upon. But I have written to him, asking him, if possible, to avoid the 24th, & as soon as I hear from him, I will write to you at Ohio, hoping that my letter will hit you about the time you reach there. We shall still be confident that we can make arrangements whereby you on your return, as proposed; so you will please keep yourself unengaged till we can decide positively, & get a letter from me.

But if you should not come on this tour, could you not visit us on purpose, say somewhere between the middle & the 25th of November? *Then* our Lyceum course of lectures will have commenced & I could get you a place in that, so that we could guarantee you *at least* $35 for a Saturday evening lecture & your Sunday services. You could leave Bosture on Friday—afternoon—if you should choose—& get back on Tuesday morning or eveg. If you could come then, on those terms,—& I will make it $40 & upwards of 2 cen—

I think it would be a better time than now. I want you to speak before our Lyceum,—if it be practicable—on any subject you choose. Mr. Phillips mentioned a lecture which you have, as one that would be very appropriate. But this matter we leave to you. If you can come about the middle or last of Nov. please write me to that effect as soon as convenient; but if not, you can wait till you hear from me again. If you can't come in Nov. we must, by all means, have you now.. One of my chief desires to have you in Nov. is, that we can raise more money then, getting $25 or more if good weather from our Lyceum fund.

But should you come the 24th, had we not better have a sort of Lyceum Lecture from you, Sat. eve'g 23d & take an admission fee at the door? You could talk to us, perhaps, about the expediency of doing right, or something of the kind. But if you must come on your way home, before our Lyceum opens, or not at all, we will do the best we can for you pecuniarily, & at least have a good meeting. But if you can promise pretty positively to come in Nov. we should prefer it! So, in much hurry, I am

Yours affectionately Wm. H. Fish